



e-News From *MAIEN*street

A Neighborhood e-Newsletter From Councilman Brian Maienschein

October 2001

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Proudly Representing
the District Five
Communities of:

Carmel Mountain Ranch

Mira Mesa

Rancho Bernardo

Sabre Springs

San Pasqual

Scripps Ranch

Sorrento Mesa

Sorrento Valley

Maienschein launches new juvenile diversion program

Councilmember Brian Maienschein last week unveiled an innovative juvenile diversion program designed to allow first-time, non-violent juvenile offenders to participate in a binding sentencing hearing that is administered by a jury of their peers – other high school students.

Under the new Teen Court program, juvenile offenders that are referred from the San Diego Police Department must first accept responsibility for the crime they have committed and then agree to abide by the punishment selected by a jury of high school students. Punishments can include counseling, workshops related to the offense, community service, letters of apology to victims and parents, research assignments or a correctional facility tour.

The sentences imposed by the teen juries are binding and officially recognized by the Juvenile Division of San Diego County Superior Court.

“We need to change the behavior of juvenile offenders before they begin to commit more serious crimes,” stated Councilmember Maienschein. “Teen Court will teach high school students – offenders and non-offenders – about the consequences of making bad choices and hopefully help them change their behavior before serious crimes are committed.”

Teen Court is not only a cost effective tool designed to get kids back on the right track without further burdening the overcrowded legal system, it is

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Reflections on 9-11-01 by Councilmember Brian Maienschein

The following comments were spoken at the San Diego County Bar Association's Candlelight Vigil held in honor of those who perished during the terrorists attacks on September 11, 2001

Seventeenth Century poet and novelist Nicolas Rowe once wrote, “Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear.”

As I read and reflect on that quote I cannot help but to think of the hundreds of men in women in fire and police uniforms who, without thought or selfishness, or regard for the danger at hand, rushed to the aid of the thousands of victims that were trapped in what was once thought an unthinkable emergency.

Those brave men and women – those heroes – put fear aside, put their

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Councilmember Maienschein served as judge during the inaugural session of Teen Court. During future sessions, volunteer judges from the legal profession will preside over the cases

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families aside, put their lives aside, because in their judgment, saving those victims were more important than the almost unimaginable fear that must have gripped their minds and their souls. But saving lives was their duty and their destiny – a duty they performed willingly, and to the end. Each having fallen with honor and with valor.

As I think back to the images, the stories and the memories of September 11, 2001, I'm saddened, like all of you.

But as I reflect, I cannot help but to, with an almost surreal optimism, thank God for creating men and women of such incredible talent and cunning professionalism and for giving them to our city our state and our nation.

For giving us men and women willing to succumb to death so others would not. For giving men and women that knew their fate and relented to being read their last rights before charging, before crawling, before struggling to save and to free the victims. For giving men and women bound by a uniform and simple oath – to protect and to serve.

The judgment that something else is more important than fear – that is what each of our police officers and firefighters do on a daily basis and that's why we

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also a program to give interested teens more exposure and experience with the judicial process. It has partnered with San Diego Unified School District and local high schools to give San Diego youth the opportunity to see, first hand, how the judicial system works by empowering volunteer teens to play the roles of prosecutor, defense attorney and bailiff in the courtroom.

Councilmember Brian Maienschein and City Attorney Casey Gwinn served as presiding judges during Youth Court's inaugural hearings, but volunteer judges, attorneys and civic leaders will serve during subsequent Youth Court proceedings.

Teen Court is the result of a merger between two separate youth diversion programs, Youth Court, a highly successful program where Councilmember Brian Maienschein served for five years as volunteer Executive Director prior to being elected to the City Council, and Peer Court, a similar program operated by the San Diego City Attorney's office.

"My desire to expand diversion programs like Teen Court throughout San Diego is one of the primary reasons I ran for City Council," said Maienschein. "During my tenure at Youth Court, I saw the tremendous difference that the program made in the lives of so many teens and I wanted to have the opportunity to take those successes city-wide. Needless to say, I'm thrilled to see my first goal as a city councilmember completed."

are gathered here tonight. To thank those public servants who do not shy away from danger, but attack it.

So thank you from the bottom of my heavy heart. Thank you for saving our families and for protecting our homes. San Diego truly appreciates your efforts and we support you to the end.

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY SERVICES GUIDE

City of San Diego
Fifth District
202 C Street, 10th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

City Administration Building

Mayor's Office (619) 236-6330
City Council (619) 236-6440

Community Service Centers

Rancho Bernardo (619) 538-8070
Scripps Ranch Center (858) 538-8200

Fire Departments

San Diego (city-wide) (619) 533-4300

Police Store Fronts

Carmel Mountain (858) 538-8090
Mira Mesa (858) 538-8120
Rancho Bernardo (858) 538-8146
Scripps Ranch (858) 538-8120

POLICE / FIRE & EMERGENCIES 911

Recreation Centers

Mira Mesa (858) 538-8122
Rancho Bernardo (858) 538-8129
Sabre Springs/Carmel Mountain (858) 538-8100
Scripps Ranch (858) 538-8085

Libraries

Mira Mesa (858) 538-8165
Rancho Bernardo (858) 538-8163
Sabre Springs/Carmel Mountain (858) 538-8181
Scripps Ranch (858) 538-8158

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

City Attorney (619) 236-6220
Environmental Services (858) 492-5056
Neighborhood Code Compliance (619) 236-5500
Police (619) 533-2000
Street Maintenance (619) 527-7500
Traffic Engineering (619) 533-3126
Water (619) 236-6750

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Assessors Office (619) 236-3771
Child Protective Services (858) 560-2191
Family Superior Court (619) 236-2681
Mental Health Services (858) 492-4444
Registrar Voters (858) 570-1061
Rodent Control (858) 694-8722
Tax Collection (619) 236-2424
Veterans Services (619) 531-4545

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Consumer Affairs (800) 952-5210
Department of Insurance (800) 927-4357
Franchise Tax Board (800) 852-5711
Missing Children Hotline (800) 433-4327
Department of Motor Vehicles (619) 688-0227
Recycling Information (619) 525-4274
Secretary of State (619) 525-4113
Taxes, Senior Assistance (800) 852-5711
Veterans Affairs (800) 952-5626



COUNCILMEMBER BRIAN MAIENSCHIN
DISTRICT FIVE
CITY OF SAN DIEGO





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<http://www.sannet.gov/city-council/district-5/maienstnews.shtml>

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It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!!